



**JEWES UNITED
FOR JUSTICE
CAMPAIGN FUND**

DC 2020 General Voter Guide

At Large: Ed Lazere

At Large: Robert White, Jr.

Ward 4: Janeese Lewis George

Ward 8: Trayon White, Sr.

THINK JEWISHLY. VOTE LOCALLY.

for analysis, download the full voter guide:
JUFCAMPAIGNFUND.ORG

INTRODUCTION

The Jews United for Justice Campaign Fund advances economic, racial, and social justice in Maryland and DC by educating and mobilizing Jews across our region. Our staff and volunteer leaders use civic engagement and community organizing to address inequities that affect our region.

We work on issue-based and candidate campaigns that make real, immediate, and concrete improvements in people's lives, and build the power of poor and working-class people and communities of color. The JUFJ Campaign Fund is proud to work alongside like-minded organizations and candidates in building multiracial, multifaith, cross-class coalitions of voters that can win elections.

We created the JUFJ Campaign Fund to help smart, strategic, and progressive candidates cut through the noise and get elected — and to make it clear to our elected leaders that we expect them to fight for Black, brown, and white families and to invest in an economy that works for all of us, not just the wealthy few.

We used four core criteria to guide our decision process: the candidates had to closely align with our community's agenda for social and economic justice, demonstrate their commitment to racial equity, show high ethical standards, and have a real chance of winning. For the 2020 election, our organizational leaders extensively examined where leading candidates stand on a social justice agenda.

Our endorsement committee represents our membership, staff, board, and community partners. They reviewed detailed questionnaires, conducted group candidate interviews, and consulted with a diverse group of local progressive advocates, activists, and longtime JUFJ Campaign Fund partners and allies.

This voter guide seeks to help voters make a difference at the ballot box, and to put real progressive policies on the DC agenda.

Learn more about the JUFJ Campaign Fund
and our endorsements at
jufjcampaignfund.org

AT LARGE: ED LAZERE



This election is about ensuring DC will be able to recover justly from the effects of the ongoing pandemic and create a future where all of us can thrive. **Ed Lazere** is the progressive, values-driven, policy expert that our city needs in this moment. We can count on him to fight for the city to put people first because that's exactly what he's been doing his whole career.

edfordc.com

As the founding Executive Director of the DC Fiscal Policy Institute, for the past two decades Ed has fought for our city's wealth to be fairly distributed, not concentrated in the hands of a few powerful industries and people. He has been the mastermind behind repealing some of DC's costliest tax giveaways to wealthy individuals and corporations that limited the District's ability to help regular DC residents make ends meet. Ed's partnership and strategic guidance have been central to many of JUFJ and the JUFJ Campaign Fund's most effective campaigns, including Save Our Safety Net and Paid Family Leave.

With the victory of Janeese Lewis George in the Ward 4 June primary election, the DC Council is on the verge of becoming a majority progressive-leaning body. If Ed is elected to the Council this year, he can be a deciding vote for fair taxes, tenants' rights, workers' rights, environmental justice, ending homelessness, defunding MPD, and investing in all DC communities.

As a parent of two DCPS graduates, and as a former head of a PTA and the District's education finance commission, Ed knows that to create equitable schools where all children can thrive, we need to invest in students and teachers, not police in schools who criminalize the behavior of Black and brown students.

Ed has been endorsed by frontline workers like nurses and bus drivers and by past JUFJ Campaign Fund endorsees like Attorney General Karl Racine, Janeese Lewis George, and many more. See the full list of community leaders and organizations who have endorsed Ed at edfordc.com/endorsements.

AT LARGE: ROBERT WHITE, JR.



Councilmember Robert White has proven in his first term that he will work to address the issues facing DC residents. The JUFJ Campaign Fund endorsed Councilmember White in 2016, has met with him annually to discuss important priorities, and allied with him on a number of policies throughout his first term. We hope to build on this work with Councilmember White going forward.

robertwhitefordc.com

Councilmember White scored a 93% on [our most recent scorecard](#), aligning with us on progressive legislation like decriminalizing fare evasion, closing loopholes on rent control, and high quality childcare and health services for parents and babies. He was a leader in the drafting and passage of the legislation that eventually became the Birth to Three for All Act, the funding and implementation of which is one of JUFJ Campaign Fund's top legislative priorities. In his second term, Councilmember White has committed to focusing more on the critical education and housing needs in the city.

At times we have deviated from Councilmember White on issues of taxes and finances, where we believe his votes were too conservative to address the urgent needs of the city. For example, when DC gained new revenue from online sales tax, he voted against using it to provide services for people experiencing homelessness. In his second term, we hope he will prioritize the use of progressive revenue sources for the services our most vulnerable residents require.

While Councilmember White voted in favor of the Fair Elections program, we are disappointed that he has chosen not to use the program to fund his own campaign. He cites concerns about not having enough money to run in both the primary and general election, but he ran unopposed in the primary and no Democratic nominee has ever lost the at-large general election. We hope Councilmember White will participate in the Fair Elections program in future runs for office.

WARD 4: JANEESSE LEWIS GEORGE



Janeese Lewis George is the progressive advocate that Ward 4 deserves. She is deeply committed to evidence-based, public health approaches to public safety, including full implementation of violence prevention and interruption programs unanimously passed by the Council. As a councilmember, Lewis George would introduce emergency legislation to ensure that trained professional violence interrupters are on the ground working to

janeese4dc.com

resolve conflict, prevent escalation, and break cycles of violence in our city by interrupting retaliation.

She also supports other progressive policies and laws, including the full funding of the Birth to Three for All Law, which would make childcare affordable for all DC residents and raise the wages of early childhood educators. She supports strengthening and expanding rent control to better protect renters, and increasing the city's investments in affordable housing. Janeese Lewis George wants to make sure that the wealthiest DC residents and most successful businesses pay their fair share of taxes to support essential programs like these.

Janeese Lewis George has deep roots in Ward 4 and is a third generation Washingtonian, having been raised by her mother, a union postal worker in the District. A graduate of DC public schools and Howard Law School, she has also been endorsed by DC Working Families Party, Washington Teacher's Union, Black Lives Matter DC, Metro-DC DSA, 350 DC, and DC for Democracy. She has an extensive career in the District working for Attorney General Karl Racine, where she worked to divert youth from incarceration and arrest. She has also been elected to the DC Democratic State Committee.

As a candidate, Lewis George is using the Fair Elections public financing program, proving she is "unbought and unbossed" by corporations and developers. She became the first candidate ever in DC to reach the maximum amount of matching funds allowed by the program. Her support from small donors, everyday DC residents, demonstrates that she is the grassroots progressive candidate for Ward 4.

WARD 8: TRAYON WHITE, SR.



Councilmember Trayon White has demonstrated a deep commitment to progressive policies during his first term on the Council, and we have seen his growth as a leader. Our endorsement team was also impressed by his self-reflection and humility in discussing with forthrightness many of the lessons he has learned from his first term.

trayonwhite8.com

focus is on serving the people of Ward 8; his votes to decriminalize fare evasion, fund homelessness services, and promote ethical governance earned him high marks on our [DC Council Scorecard](#). Of all of the incumbents seeking re-election, Councilmember White is the only candidate participating in the Fair Elections program JUFJ Campaign Fund supported, which elevates the voices and donations of ordinary DC residents over deep-pocketed special interests.

Councilmember White has demonstrated repeatedly that his

The JUFJ Campaign Fund is founded on the idea of building strong, accountable relationships with elected officials and candidates. Relationships help advance JUFJ Campaign Fund's policy goals, and they also help shape our and elected officials' understandings of and responses to critical issues for our community, such as antisemitism and white supremacy. When he misstepped, Councilmember White reached out to us for help understanding and responding, and he has striven toward *teshuvah*: a process of repentance, apology, learning, and change.

We look forward to working with Councilmember White on the priorities he shared with us during our endorsement process, including more funding for violence interruption and making sure that funds for affordable housing go to the very low income families and residents who need it the most.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In addition to the DC Council races, the State Board of Education (SBOE) races this year are also critically important to the future of our city. While the JUFJ Campaign Fund made SBOE endorsements in 2018, this fall we are following the lead of our trusted partners at the Washington Teachers' Union and lifting up their recommendations. WTU has deep knowledge of DC's schools and education system, the needs of students, teachers, and families, and the function of the State Board of Education. This year WTU has endorsed:

- **Mysiki Valentine for SBOE At Large**
- **James Harnett for SBOE Ward 2**
- **Frazier O'Leary for SBOE Ward 4**
- **Eboni Rose Thompson for SBOE Ward 7**
- **Carlene Reid for SBOE Ward 8**

ADDITIONAL RACES

The JUFJ Campaign Fund has not made an endorsement in every contest that will appear on your ballot. We offer the following information on those omissions below:

- In the **Ward 2** Council primary election, our endorsed Council candidate Jordan Grossman did not advance to the general election.
- In the **Ward 7** Council primary election, we did not endorse Vincent Gray, the incumbent, who is running unopposed.
- We do not currently endorse candidates for federal office, including Shadow Senator and Shadow Representative.
- We do not currently endorse candidates for Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC).
- We did not take a position on Initiative 81, which seeks to decrease criminal penalties associated with certain psychedelic plant-based drugs.

SAMPLE BALLOT

JUFJ CAMPAIGN FUND DC COUNCIL ENDORSEMENTS General Election 2020

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

1. TO VOTE, YOU MUST FILL IN THE OVAL TO THE LEFT OF YOUR CHOICE COMPLETELY. A filled-in oval to the left of a candidate's name indicates a vote for that candidate.
2. Your ballot will have additional races on it, and will not have races for other Wards. The JUFJ Campaign Fund does not endorse in federal or ANC races.
3. This page is designed to look like your ballot. That's why there is all this fine print.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AT LARGE

Vote for no more than Two (2)

● **ED
LAZERE**

● **ROBERT
WHITE JR.**

READ MORE ABOUT
ED LAZERE ON PAGE 3
AND ROBERT WHITE JR.
ON PAGE 4

FIND ED LAZERE AT
NUMBER 23 ON YOUR
BALLOT, AND ROBERT
WHITE AT NUMBER 14.

WARD FOUR

Vote for no more than One (1)

● **JANEESÉ
LEWIS
GEORGE**

READ MORE ABOUT
JANEESÉ LEWIS GEORGE
ON PAGE 5

WARD EIGHT

Vote for no more than One (1)

● **TRAYON
WHITE SR.**

READ MORE ABOUT
TRAYON WHITE SR.
ON PAGE 6

ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE



Rubie
Coles



Ariel
Drehobl



Suzy
Goldenkranz



Seth
Johnson



Sarah
Marcus



Shira
Markoff



Lilah
Pomerance



Stephanie
Sneed



Michelle
Sternthal



Travis
Swanson



Tac
Tacelosky



Lizzy
Vogel

JUFJ CAMPAIGN FUND STAFF



Amy
Lieber



Sarah
Novick



Zach
Weinstein

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FOR JUSTICE
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Paid for by JUFJ Campaign Fund, 1100 H St, NW, Suite 630, Washington, DC 20005. Joe Sandler, Treasurer.

A copy of our report is filed with the Director of Campaign Finance of the District of Columbia Board of Elections.

jufjcampaignfund.org